

FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Captain Isaac Paine School
160 Foster Center Road
Foster, RI 02825

Tuesday, November 22, 2011
Executive Session – 7:00pm
Open Session – 8:00pm

1. **Convene Meeting** – at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, November 22, 2011, Chair, Kathleen Swanson, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee to order.
 - a. Roll Call – The following members were present: Chair, Kathleen Swanson, Vice Chair, Shelley Pezza, member, Patricia Fountain, member, arrived at 7:10PM, Superintendent/Principal, Dr. Davida Irving, Legal Counsel, Greg Piccirilli, who arrived at 7:09 pm and FSC Secretary, Helena McCullough.
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance – was recited.
2. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC **vote to go into Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a) (1) Personnel (2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation.**
 - a. **(1) Personnel – Superintendent / Principal Evaluation**
 - b. **(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation – Arbitration – Educational Support Personnel**
 - c. **(2) Legal Advice Residency Issue**Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.
3. **Reconvene Open Session** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to go into Open Session at 8:00pm. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
4. **Public Comment** – there was no Public Comment.
5. **Building Use Requests** – on a motion by Mrs. Fountain and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for the Foster Recreation department to use the Gym for Zumba classes and for the Swamp Meadow Community Theatre to use the cafeteria and approved classrooms and kitchen from November 15 to December 12, 2011. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
6. **Approval of Minutes** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to accept the Executive Session Minutes of October 25, 2011. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to accept the Open Session Minutes of October 25, 2011. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to table the Open Session Minutes of September 27, 2011. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to accept the Executive Session Minutes of October 11, 2011. Discussion followed. Mrs. Fountain removed her seconded and Ms. Pezza removed her original motion and made a motion to table the October 11, 2011 Executive Session Minutes with Mrs. Fountain seconding. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

7. **Approval of Warrants** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to approve the Warrant in the amount of \$175,717.31 dated October 20, 2011. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – no

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to approve the Warrant in the amount of \$139,996.44 dated November 5, 2011. Discussion followed. Motion passed.

Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – no

8. Old Business (for discussion/action)

- a. Legal Services – Out to Bid – Dr. Irving reported to the FSC, that at 3:29 pm on November 22, 2011 and witnessed by Kathleen Swanson, Davida Irving and Helena McCullough, that five “sealed” Legal Services bids were opened. Copies of the bids will be made available to the FSC for their review.
- b. Budget Sub-Committee – Mrs. Fountain reported that the Budget Sub-Committee met with Mr. Moore, Business Manager, and requested that the budget be placed in a readable format. Another date to meet has not yet been scheduled.

9. New Business (for discussion/action)

- a. Recess – On a point raised by Ms. Pezza, the Committee discussed their dissatisfaction with recess being withheld as a form of punishment. Mrs. Swanson pointed out that it is against the FSD’s Wellness Policy. Discussion followed. No votes were taken.
- b. Tuition – Out of District – Dr. Irving brought to the attention of the FSC the Non-Resident Tuition Policy. Determining an annual tuition amount was discussed. No votes were taken. A legal opinion will be sought.

10. Communication/Reports

- a. Correspondence – copy of a letter sent to a parent concerning residency was provided to the FSC.
- b. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Irving reported that on November 10, 2011 the Foster Teachers held a professional development day; in the morning language arts and in the afternoon math and offering movement breaks during the school day.

A Learning Celebration was held November 22, 2011 in which the Student Council prepared and presented and all of grade 5 students participated.
Dr. Irving applauded the Fifth Grade teachers and Mrs. Kouvo-Smith for an outstanding program.

Dr. Irving has put a fifth grade student leadership team together.

- c. *Business Manager's Report* – Mr. Moore, Business Manager, reported that the Budget Sub-Committee had requested, he developed, and they have accepted a readable format for the budget.

d. *Future Agenda Items*

- Wellness Policy – Swanson
- Building and Grounds Update – Swanson
- Technology Presentation – Swanson
- Tuition Policy
- Student and Staff Recognition – standing agenda item

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to reconvene Executive Session at 8:57 pm. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to reconvene Open Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Mrs. Swanson relayed that a vote was taken to accept the Superintendent / Principal Evaluation on a vote 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to “Seal” the minutes of Executive Session for November 22, 2011. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

11. **Adjournment** – on a motion by Mrs. Fountain and seconded by Ms. Pezza the FSC voted to adjourn at 9:35 pm. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee